

PLEASE REWRITE THE ABSTRACT AS FOLLOWS:

-- An adapter is for use in cooperation with a post. The adapter includes an upper adapter portion which will be attached to a first part of the post, and a lower adapter portion which will be attached to a second part of the post. The adapter also includes a cylindrically helical spring connecting the upper adapter portion to the lower adapter portion so as to allow relative movement between the upper and lower adapter portions, including either rotational movement in which the post remains upright, or movement in which the first part of the post bends, or both. At least one of the two adapter portions is shaped to receive the helical spring as a screw. --

PLEASE REWRITE THE LAST FULL PARAGRAPH ON PAGE 5 AS FOLLOWS:

-- FIG 1 further shows that the adapter includes a plurality of holes such as holes **125** and **130** for removably screwing or nailing the adapter to the mailbox post. The adapter **100** is shaped to receive the first part **105** and the second part **110** of the mailbox post. --

PLEASE REWRITE THE LAST FULL PARAGRAPH ON PAGE 7 AS FOLLOWS:

-- FIG 8 further shows a removable device **825** for securing the spring **415** in a screwed position. In this embodiment, the removable device **825** is a pin or screw, and the spring includes a hook or eyelet **480** which will come into contact with the pin **825** in order to prevent the spring from unscrewing. A portion of the pin may be threaded so that it can be securely attached to the adapter, and easily removed whenever the mailbox owner wants to replace the spring (or tighten the spring), or disassemble the adapter for any other reason. The hook or eyelet **480** is also useful even if glue or caulk is used at one or both ends of the spring, instead of using the pin **825**, because the hook or eyelet will provide an additional surface to which the glue or caulk can adhere. --